

Appl. No. 09/943,699  
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Amendments to the Specification:

[0019] In accordance with this embodiment of the invention, wear ring 128 also includes a plastic laminate 146 which is attached to lower surface 136 of component 130. The plastic laminate is toroidal shaped and has an upper surface 148 and a lower surface 150 each of which are substantially planar. The planar upper surface of plastic laminate 146 is attached to the planar lower surface 136 by an adhesive such as a pressure sensitive adhesive or by other conventional joining mechanism. The plastic laminate, which can be formed of DELRIN, ERTALYTE TX [[Delrin, Ertalyte TX]], polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyetheretherketone (PEEK) or other plastic material resistant to the chemicals normally used in a CMP slurry, protects the stainless steel from chemical attack. Preferably, a plastic material is selected that provides the desired chemical resistance and is also substantially resistant to abrasive wear. In a preferred embodiment, the plastic laminate is formed of Ertalyte TX, a material available from DSM Plastic Products of Reading, Pa. [[Ertalyte]] ERTALYTE TX is believed to be a two-phase material made from PET and polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) plastics. This material is preferred because it has a better wear resistance in the presence of polishing slurries than do other plastic materials. A suitable plastic material may be characterized by a wear resistance factor, known as K-factor. A suitable K-factor, as measured by a PTM 55010 test method, may be less than about  $100 \times 10^{-10}$  in<sup>3</sup>min./lb.-ft.-hr., and preferably less than about  $50 \times 10^{-10}$  in<sup>3</sup>min./lb.-ft.-hr. A material such as [[Ertalyte]] ERTALYTE TX made from PET and PTFE plastics is also preferred because of its low coefficient of friction. A suitable coefficient of friction as measured using a DSM EPP 55007 test method may be less than 0.3, and preferably no more than 0.2.